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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

1983 0825 011 022

IN RE:

Vincent Riveccio
315 Eastern Street
New Haven, CT

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The Board of Examiners for Nursing was presented by the Department of Health Services with a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges dated April 18, 1984.

The Statement of Charges alleged violations of certain provisions of Chapter 378, Connecticut General Statutes. The Notice of Hearing provided that the hearing would take place on May 15, 1984 and continued to June 28, 1984 in the Department of Health Services at 150 Washington Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

Each member of the Board of Examiners for Nursing involved in this decision attests that he/she has reviewed the record, and that this decision is based entirely on the record.

FACT

1. Vincent Riveccio, respondent, was at all pertinent times licensed to practice nursing as a practical nurse in Connecticut, with registration number 15308.
2. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Section 4-182(c), the respondent was provided a full opportunity prior to the institution of agency

action to show compliance with all the terms for the retention of his license.

3. The respondent on or about each August 3 and August 4, 1983, while employed as a nurse at Griffin Hospital, diverted to his own use three (3) 100 mgm ampules of the controlled drug Demerol; on or about October 5, 1983 while employed as a nurse at Yale Health Services diverted to his own use 50 mgm of the controlled substance Demerol; on or about October 6, 1983 diverted to his own use two (2) 50 mgm doses of the controlled substance Demerol while employed as a nurse at Yale Health Services.

4. The activities referenced in paragraph three (3) were uncovered by Drug Control Agent Richard G. Moore, and Senior Drug Control Agent Lionel Roberge, Department of Consumer Protection, during an investigation conducted during August, 1983; and Drug Control Agent Herbert C. Strickland, Jr. and Drug Control Agent Richard G. Moore, Department of Consumer Protection, during an investigation conducted during November, 1983.

DISCUSSION

5. The First and Second Counts allege that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) on or about each August 3 and August 4, 1983, while employed as a nurse at Griffin Hospital, by diverting to his own use three (3) 100 mgm ampules of the controlled substance Demerol.

In pertinent part, Section 20-99(b) forbids: ... (2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions.

Based on the foregoing, the Board concludes that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the First and Second Counts.

6. The Third Count alleges that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) on or about October 5, 1983, while employed as a nurse at Yale Health Services, by diverting to his own use 50 mgm of the controlled substance Demerol.

In pertinent part, Section 20-99(b) forbids: ...(2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions.

Based on the foregoing, the Board concludes that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Third Count.

7. The Fourth and Fifth Counts allege that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) on or about October 6, 1983, while employed as a nurse at Yale Health Services, by diverting to his own use two (2) 50 mgm doses of the controlled substance Demerol.

In pertinent part, Section 20-99(b) forbids: ...(2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions.

Based on the foregoing, the Board concludes that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Fourth and Fifth Counts.

ORDER

8. It is the unanimous decision of the Board of Examiners for Nursing that:

- a. The license of the respondent be suspended for a minimum effective period of two years determined as follows:
 - i. as to the First Count, suspension for a period of two (2) years;
 - ii. as to the Second Count, suspension for a period of two (2) years;
 - iii. as to the Third Count, suspension for a period of two (2) years;
 - iv. as to the Forth Count, suspension for a period of two (2) years;

- v. as to the Fifth Count, suspension for a period of two (2) years;
 - vi. all suspensions are to run concurrently for a total effective suspension of two (2) years.
 - vii. suspension effective as of December 1, 1984.
- b. At the end of the two years specified in (a) the respondent may apply for reinstatement by presenting documentation that he has participated in ongoing therapy from a licensed therapist, has remained drug free during the period of the suspension and is competent to return to the practice of nursing. Documentation from said therapist shall include dates of treatment, evaluation of drug free status, and a summary statement current to within one (1) month of the reinstatement request.
9. The respondent, Vincent Riveccio, is hereby directed to surrender his license and current registration to the Board of Examiners for Nursing at 150 Washington Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 on or before December 1, 1984.
10. The Board of Examiners for Nursing herewith advises the Department of Health Services of the State of Connecticut of this decision.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 15th day of November, 1984

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: Bette Jane M. Murphy RN
Bette Jane M. Murphy, R.N., Chairman